

# The Signature

## Sigonella, Sicily

Vol. 20 No. 41

Oct. 17, 2003

### Local man owes CAC 12 his life in recent rescue

by Lt. J.g. Rick Foster

A Ready One launch can happen at any moment. A crew on the ready has already preflighted their aircraft and personal survival gear. They will stay together or in their rooms on base for the entire twenty-four hours of their watch. No one knows if they will get the call, or if they do, what the mission will be. Some are sent out on tactical missions, but most are search and rescue (SAR) related. That's exactly what happened in the early morning hours of Wednesday, Aug. 28 for Combat Aircrew 12. They were called into the Tactical Support Center and briefed that there would be a SAR mission later that morning. The search would be difficult; the area the crew was given was relatively large, and the missing vessel was a small, personal boat.

The initial search began 80 miles southeast of Malta, with the crew searching in long northeast to southwest tracks. Calm seas and good visibility aided the crew in locating the derelict vessel. The sixteen-foot boat had lost power and had no radios to communicate its position to the search party.

After a five-hour search, CAC 12 found the boat and its owner inside their search box. Fortunately for both the man and the search crew, the boat was still afloat and intact. It becomes significantly more difficult to locate someone in a small life raft or worse, in only their life-vest. The Patrol Plane Pilot, Lt. Brian Bradford, and the Tactical Coordinator, Lt. Damian Sanders, were the first personnel to find the boat. From that point on it was fairly simple: the crew orbited overhead and called Malta Rescue Control Center, which dispatched the recovery helicopter. Within 45 minutes, the man was in the hands of the rescue team and on his way to safety.

"That was probably the most rewarding search and rescue I've been a part of," said Lt. Bradford. Lt. Sanders seconded that feeling, adding, "It took quite a while to find the boat. Every window was manned the entire time. It was a great effort by the whole crew." Once the helicopter was headed home, the crew returned to NAS Sigonella for some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

### Base housing set for new units, recap

By JO1 Craig Coleman  
Staff Writer

The Naval Air Station Sigonella Housing Officer recently announced that plans to open more units in the Marinai housing area next year are in place and expected to occur on schedule.

Sandra Peterson, director of the NASSIG housing office, made the comments during "Feedback," a live call-in television broadcast produced by American Forces Network (AFN) Sigonella Oct. 8.

"During the next phase (of the Marinai development) we will be accepting 118 units in July of (fiscal year) '04 and the last phase will be in July of (FY) '05, and that will be a complete 524 units when we're done," Peterson said.

The first call-in question of the night concerned possible plans to renovate the 205 housing complex. Peterson said that a recapitalization project was planned for 205 scheduled to begin FY06. The project will take place in three phases. In each phase, people will be relocated to other housing units or, if they choose, to the local economy, while the current buildings are demolished and replaced with new units. The new 205 will contain 220 units, each larger than the current units.

"There will probably be a little more floor space than in Marinai and Mineo because the floor plan structure has changed," Peterson said.

Housing, page 13

### Today's Hometown Weather

Oxnard, CA.



High 72° F - Low 57° F  
Partly cloudy

## Jaguars pull out homecoming win



Stephen Decatur High School Jaguars Quarterback takes the ball downfield during first-half action at the NAS II ballfield on Oct. 10. The Jaguars High School Football Team edged out the Brussels American School Brigands 32-30 to take the homecoming-game win. The Jaguars accounted for 378 yards of total offense, 312 yards rushing and 66 passing. The Brigands moved the ball just as well, racking up 380 yards of total offense, 218 yards rushing and 162 yards passing. For full game information, turn to page 8.

## Homecoming spirit starts with cheers

The Stephen Decatur High School at Naval Air Station Sigonella celebrated their homecoming weekend last week with a host of activities.

There was, of course, the homecoming dance on Saturday. Leading up to that was a Pep Rally, a Powder Puff game, football game, volleyball games, cross country meet and the announcement of the homecoming court at the football game. The homecoming court consisted of Lord and Lady Steven Golemme and Crystal Morales, Duke and Dutchess Ryan Weems and Breonna Oliphant, Prince and Princess Danny Vazquez and Ashley Plemons and King and Queen Jose Peralta and Kathleen Mendoza.

One group of students who put a lot of preparation into the homecoming festivities are the SDS High School cheerleaders. The cheerleaders did much to raise the spirits of the school.

"We presented each of the home teams with a bag of goodies for good luck for the games that they going to participate in," said Karen Pozniak-Robins, head coach for the cheerleaders. This included candy bags for the players in football, vol-



The Stephen Decatur High School cheerleaders perform their special halftime routine during the homecoming football game at the NAS II ballfield.

leyball, and cross country. They also put up banners, made player breakthroughs, and put up decorations such as balloons.

"We made posters and locker decorations for each sports player," said Courtney

Wrinkles, the only senior on the squad. "We made candy bags for each person on the squad. We made a breakthrough for the football game and one for the volleyball game too." The cheerleaders made their own dance and routine for halftime of the football game. "We devised the music and everything on our own," said Wrinkles.

"The first game and homecoming are the greatest games," said Pozniak-Robins. "Of course when we go into the playoffs you go into a more extended halftime show. They get the music together, they choreograph it themselves, I am just the critiquer. They are empowered to do planning, and everything is approved by me."

School spirit is big around homecoming time and at other times as well. "We just basically try to build up the school spirit," said Pozniak-Robins. "That's a big job for seven girls. It's not only preparing for our routines, which change every halftime. They have to come up with a schematic for me, so there's planning that's involved before every game."

Getting to be a cheerleader isn't as easy

Homecoming, page 12



# Direct Line

**Capt. T.L. Davison**  
NASSIG  
Commanding Officer

Happy Birthday Shipmates! Yes, it's our birthday and we're going to celebrate it in style at the Navy Ball tomorrow night in Catania.

The United States Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on 13 October 1775. All together, the Continental Navy numbered some 50 ships over the course of the war, with approximately 20 warships active at its maximum strength.

Since 1972, each Chief of Naval Operations has encouraged a Navy-wide celebration to enhance a greater appreciation of our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward pride and professionalism in the naval service.

We currently have 295 ships, over 4,000 aircraft, 390,000 men and women on active duty, another 150,000 in the reserve components and about 200,000 civilian employees. We have a lot of resources, equipment and supplies. Right now, over 50 percent of our ships are deployed to various regions around the globe.

The Navy and Marine Corps Team provide the Nation with a continuous, adaptable, and active instrument of security policy with which to promote stability and project maritime power. Forward-deployed, combat-credible expeditionary naval forces are important to shaping the global security environment; helping assure access to regions of vital interest; and permitting timely and frequently the initial crisis response from the sea. The ability to reassure friends and allies, deter potential adversaries, and, when called upon, engage in combat at all levels of intensity makes the Navy-Marine Corps Team especially useful to the Nation in peace, crisis, and war.

We have seen peace and war during my time here at NAS Sigonella. We have a great relationship with our host nation, our base counterparts and friends. We will continue to work side-by-side doing our mission with the best resources we have...you!

We've had some good times and we've had some bad times. Tragedy struck us this year with the loss of our HC-4 Shipmates. We must continue to be vigilant, committed and dedicated. We still have an important job to do! And we can't do it without you. Thank you for everything you do for your department, this base, the Navy and our nation.

Happy Birthday Shipmates and happy birthday to the Navy!  
God bless you, the Navy and the United States of America.

## The Pulse

### Here it is again ... cold season

Courtesy USNH Sigonella

The "Common Cold" is an infection of the head and chest caused by a virus. It can affect your upper respiratory tract. This includes your nose, mouth, throat, sinuses, ears, windpipe (trachea), voice box (larynx), bronchial airways, and the tube between your middle ear and your nose.

It is spread person to person by personal contact such as shaking hands, sharing the same glass, and kissing, as well as by coughing and sneezing. There are over 200 types of viruses that cause the common cold. Bacteria do not cause the common cold. Antibiotics will not help. In fact, antibiotics can cause a rash when they interact with some of the viruses, and the side effects of the antibiotics can cause other problems such as yeast infections and diarrhea.

The symptoms are typically: runny nose (this can be clear, yellowish, and even

green appearing), watery eyes, sneezing, cough, sinus congestion, muscle aches, headaches, and fever. Loss of appetite is very common, especially in children. As long as your child can take fluids by mouth, there is generally no cause for alarm.

All of these can be treated symptomatically, using over the counter medications such as ibuprofen or acetaminophen for fever and aches, as well as pseudoephedrine for the nasal congestion. If you are not sure if these are appropriate for your child (for example, age less than 12 months or if they have other medical conditions requiring chronic medicine use), please contact your health care provider. Children should NOT receive aspirin. Aspirin can cause a severe problem with the liver called Reye's Syndrome.

You are more susceptible to "catching a cold" if you: use tobacco, do not eat well, if you are chronically fatigued, suffer from chronic stress (physical or emotional), or if you live or work in crowded conditions. Children in daycare settings are particularly susceptible because they are constantly in close contact with each other.

Colds generally last between seven and 14 days. Occasionally, the cough can last for a bit longer. Make an appointment to see your provider if: coughing produces green or grey phlegm, white or yellow spots on the tonsils, fevers over 100.4 that do not respond to ibuprofen or acetaminophen (multiple doses are ok, even for kids), skin rash, ear pain, stiff neck, or if the child does not act like him/herself. The child will act sick, but they should be able to recognize mom and dad or show interest in a favorite toy.

You can help yourself be more comfortable during this time by getting enough sleep and limiting your activity, drinking plenty of non-caffeinated fluids, and using humidifiers to moisturize the air, especially at night.

## CNOs' Message to the Fleet...



As we celebrate the Navy's 228th birthday, our mission remains clear: we must protect our homeland, our freedom, and our way of life by stopping the forces of terrorism wherever they may hide.

The global war on terrorism puts every one of us on the front lines. Continued success demands our fullest measure of honor, courage, and commitment - the very same qualities that have defined our institution for more than two and a quarter centuries.

You have performed superbly in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom this year. Our Navy brought speed, agility and persistence to the joint fight: speed in launching a joint decapitation strike at the onset of combat operations in Iraq; agility as our Navy operated in unison as a distributed force from three separate axes of attack; and persistence as aircraft, ships and submarines provided seamless combat capability to joint forces ashore for days on end. Our Navy has never been more ready

than it is right now, and our performance in Iraq and Afghanistan has shown how superior readiness and capability translates into decisive force.

We are the greatest Navy in the world because of you. Your willingness to challenge assumptions and embrace the changes that enhance our capability is helping chart a course to the future. It will ensure this institution, the United States Navy, remains the greatest Navy to ever set sail. I could not be more proud of you.

You can justly take pride in this great Navy and nation in which you serve. Your service is helping to keep America a lighthouse of hope and a beacon of freedom. I am honored to serve with you. Happy birthday, Shipmates.

## NJP Results

E-4 on diverse occasions between December 2002 through April 2003 violated UCMJ Art. 112a (wrongful use of a controlled substance). Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 60 days; to forfeit \$721.00 per month for 2 months; reduction to next inferior pay grade.

E-4 on Sept. 16, 2003 Violated UCMJ Art. 112a (Wrongful possession of a controlled substance.) Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 60 days; to forfeit \$678.00 per month for 2 months; reduction to next inferior pay grade.

E-4 on Sept. 16, 2003. Violated UCMJ Art. 112a (Wrongful possession of a controlled substance.) Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 60 days; to forfeit \$721.00 per month for 2 months; reduction to next inferior pay grade.

E-3 on Sept. 7, 2003 Violated UCMJ Art. 113 (Misbehavior of a sentinel or lookout). Awarded restriction to the limits of U.S. Naval Air Station Sigonella (NAS II) for 60 days; to forfeit \$654.00 per month for 2 months; reduction to next inferior pay grade.

## We make a Difference

By Chaplain  
Thom Dansak  
Command  
Chaplain

The birthday of the Navy has been a frequent topic of conversations this past two months. As Sigonella prepared for its Navy Ball, there was a lot of fund raisers and activities aimed at supporting the upcoming event: car washes, food sales, raffles, radiothons, etc. Birthday Balls or Cake Cutting Ceremonies are planned at just about every Navy installation. After all, celebrating a two hundred twenty-eighth birthday is a significant event! Think about it, the Navy is older than the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

I like the Navy. There was a sense of adventure that attracted me to it...going to sea, seeing some foreign ports and having experiences that most of my friends back home will probably never have. I really do enjoy being a "Sailor."

I have spoken to a great number of younger Sailors in my 26 years and whenever I asked "Why do you want to be a 'Sailor'?" the answer was usually different from mine. People mentioned that they thought about the educational benefits. Some mentioned that they lost interest in college. Some just wanted to do something different and had nothing better in mind. Some really did see it as an adventure in their youth!

Whatever reason you might have had for enlisting or accepting a commission, I think that we all need to remember and consider that serving in the Navy is really a true form of "service." American Sailors have for more than two centuries done some remarkable things that changed the history of the world as we know it. True, most of the time, it seems to be just a job, but a short look at naval history can show us that the Navy has made a difference. It made a difference in keeping people free from tyrants; and in some cases it freed people from tyrants. Our history is one of service to the cause of liberty.

America has been heavily influenced by the Judeo Christian tradition in which the human person has an exalted position. We are "created in the image and likeness of God." We share that image and likeness through the blessing of freedom—freedom to grow and develop into the person God intended us to be. The American love for freedom has kept us from experiencing dictatorships and tyrants in our own land. It has led us to join with others in very noble causes to end the rule of some tyrants and restore opportunity and freedom to people.

This week, we celebrate the birthday of our Service: The United States Navy. You and I are part of an organization that has made a difference. Whether it be in a battle, launching planes from the deck of a carrier or doing a community relations project in Catania, the Navy makes a difference in their youth!

## NAS Sigonella Worship Opportunities

**Catholic Mass**  
Saturday 5 p.m. Chapel (NAS II)  
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)  
Sunday 9 a.m. in Italian 41st  
Stormo Chapel (NAS II)  
Sunday 11 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)

**Protestant Traditional Worship**  
Sunday 9 a.m. Chapel (NAS II)

**Protestant Worship**  
Sunday 9 a.m. Community Center (Mineo)  
Sunday 11 a.m. Chapel (NAS I)

**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**  
Sunday 1 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

**Church of Christ**  
Sunday 3:30 p.m. Chapel (NAS I)

**Jewish Shabbat Service**  
Last Friday of the month 5 p.m.  
Chapel (NAS I)

**Weekdays**  
Daily Catholic Mass 11:30 a.m.  
(NAS I & II Chapels)  
Wednesday Protestant Bible Study  
4:45 p.m. (NAS II Chapel)  
For more details, call 624-4295 or 624-2947.

**SECURITY BLOTTER**

**CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE**  
624-6389  
Oct. 6 - Oct. 10

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

- Traffic accidents without injuries - 8
- Traffic accident with injuries - 5
- Car break-ins - 1
- DUI - 1
- DUI's 2003 - 41
- DUI's 2002 - 35

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# NAVY NEWS

## CNO says combat operations lay foundation for future Navy

By JOC Walter T. Ham IV, CNO Public Affairs

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (NNS) — The lessons learned from combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan laid the foundation for the Navy of the future, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark said Oct. 8, at the U.S. Naval Institute's Warfare Symposium, a two-day gathering of naval leaders and institute members to discuss Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The CNO said superior readiness allowed the Navy to give the president more options and bring more firepower to the fight during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Seventy percent of the Navy's surface ships and 50 percent of its submarines were deployed, including seven carrier strike groups, three amphibious ready groups, two amphibious task forces, and more than 77,000 Sailors and Marines.

"I think we ought to be able to offer that kind of response every day of the week," CNO said.

"Readiness counts. One of things that we're talking about doing is to make sure that as an institution, we establish a set of attitudes that reinforces that we are going to live

a lifestyle of readiness. We are going to insist on a culture of readiness."

Clark said future deployment schedules will be based less on the old six-month "heel-to-toe" deployment cycle and more on mission requirements, which will make the Navy more flexible and less predictable.

"I believe that predictability can be a liability," Clark said. "I believe that the Navy has been too predictable. If you want to know what we are planning to do next, you just need to go to the Navy exchange and ask the cashier, and they will give you our schedule. I think we need to think about new ways to do this."

Clark added that by early next month, the Navy will be "re-cocked and ready again, just like it was the third week in December" prior to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We need to think in terms about our ability to respond, our ability to surge," Clark said. "We want to recognize that the world of tomorrow is a more uncertain world than the world we live in today — and we are going to be ready to respond."

## Navy recruiting successful in FY03

By JO2 Chris Conklin, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — Sept. 30 marked the end of another successful recruiting year for the U.S. Navy, and the 26th consecutive month that the sea service's recruiting force attained its national mission goals for accessions and new contracts.

Navy Recruiting Command accessed 41,076 recruits in fiscal year 2003, with a national enlisted goal of 41,165, which allowed a range of +25/-100.

"Navy Recruiting's success over the past year can be attributed directly to the hard work and dedication of the entire Navy Recruiting team," said Rear Adm. Jeffrey L. Fowler, commander, Navy Recruiting Command. "I am proud to lead such an energetic, professional group of men and women who work daily to find the highly skilled recruits needed to man the Navy's ever-evolving, high-tech platforms. Recruiters truly are shaping the Navy of the future, as they recruit the best and brightest young men and women to serve in the world's great-



est Navy," he said.

The buzz of Navy Recruiting's success echoes through its ranks, even to some of its newest recruiters in the field. Machinist's Mate 1st Class (SS) Jason Rubenstein of Overland Park, Kan., has been in recruiting for only six months, but is excited about his opportunity to be part of its success.

"I think it's great. It's been great so far to see what we do in the field," said Rubenstein. "It's good to be a part of something so big. I look forward to returning to the fleet and seeing firsthand the product that I helped to create."

The Navy began FY03 with a national enlisted accession goal of 48,000. This goal was cut by nearly 7,000 throughout the year due to

unprecedented retention rates of active-duty Sailors, reductions in attrition and sustained achievement of monthly recruiting goals. Navy Recruiting took advantage of this goal cut to concentrate on specific needs of the fleet and increasing the quality of Sailors in the fleet, by implementing tactics that would bring a more well-rounded Sailor to its ranks.

Earlier this year, Navy Recruiting Command raised the minimum Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT) score of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery from 31 to 35. During FY03, the Navy implemented a policy requiring 94 percent of new recruits be high school diploma graduates (HSDG), and Navy recruiters succeeded by recruiting

94.3 percent HSDG; the Department of Defense requirement is 90 percent. Navy Recruiting continued to seek the best and brightest young men and women by requiring that 62 percent of recruits score above 50 on the AFQT; Navy recruiters excelled with a rate of 65.7 percent for FY03, while the DoD goal was 60 percent.

Navy recruiting also sought to increase the number of recruits with college experience in FY03, recruiting more than 3,200 applicants with at least 12 semester hours of college. Navy recruiters continued to fill jobs that have experienced manning shortfalls in the fleet, by dramatically reducing the number of priority ratings from 39 to just six by the end of the fiscal year.

Although the changes make the job more challenging to recruiters, it helps to focus on specific needs of the Navy and ensure that recruits are the best qualified to succeed in today's highly technical Navy. "It's a bit easier when we have in mind what the Navy needs," said Navy Counselor 1st Class Susan Smith of Navy Recruiting Station Savannah, Ga., a recruiter for five years.

## How to file a property loss claim

By Barbara Perotti Casagrande NLSO

The Military and Civilian Employees' Personnel Claims Act (PCA) provides for partial compensation for personal property that is lost, damaged, or destroyed incident to service. It does not provide personal insurance and will not cover a loss to the same extent as private insurance.

In case of house break-ins, PCA will provide partial compensation for losses only if claimant took reasonable measures to safeguard the property and the theft occurred as the result of forced entry. If a house is robbed, the first thing to do is to call Security immediately and to secure the area. Security will make a detailed report regarding their findings and the method of entry into the house. The claimant has to do the best to fully document all missing items.

In order to prevent such events people are expected to secure the windows and the doors of all quarters, wall lockers, BEQ/BOQ rooms, and storage spaces so that it is difficult to steal the property and a potential thief must force an entry. Alarm systems are desirable but not required. Car doors must be locked and all windows secured. Cash, valuable jewelry and other small, high value items must be protected in a special way, taking extra measures. For example, if you live in a barracks room, you should secure these types of items in a locker or locked drawer. If you live in a house, you should take steps to secure small, high value items by hiding them, locking them up, or keeping them in someplace unexpected. Leaving your expensive diamond ring on top of your dresser in a jewelry box does not qualify as taking extra measures.

When NLSO pays the replacement cost for your stolen property, you should keep in mind that there is one important difference between PCA and private insurance. Private insurance (a.k.a. homeowner's/renter's policies) will often pay the full replacement cost of stolen property. PCA pays the fair market value of the missing items. In order to determine the fair market value, the NLSO will depreciate your property according to a commercially accepted schedule.

Remember that if you are covered by an insurance policy, you must file a claim with your private insurance company first. NLSO will not accept your claim until you provide proof that you have first claimed your loss from your private insurance company. If you do not have private insurance, you will be required to certify that fact in writing. NLSO investigates if any type of fraud is suspected. You may also claim your loss if your property is damaged or destroyed

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## Seabees Work With Iraqis to Provide Proper Burial for Mass Grave Victims

By Lt. j.g. Joshua A. Frey, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/Commander, U.S. 5th Fleet Public Affairs

MANAMA, Bahrain (NNS) — In the effort to reunite Iraqis with their loved ones executed by Saddam Hussein, the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force's (I MEF) Engineer Group (MEG) Seabees answered the call during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

Once it became apparent that Saddam Hussein had fallen from power, Iraqi Shiites went to a location in Al Hillah they knew to be a mass grave for thousands of Iraqis.

Their intent was to recover the remains of their loved ones who had disappeared during the violence in a Shiite uprising after the end of Operation Desert Storm. Once relatives had identified the remains, the Seabees were asked for help to create a dignified burial place for the victims.

"My first thoughts were that this was evidence of mass destruction, very similar to the feeling you get when you go to Dachau or Bergen-Belsen," said Capt. Albert Garcia, the deputy commander of the I MEF/MEG. "At that point, I think we fully realized the importance of our mission."

"Twelve years later, they had not forgotten this," said Lt. Jeff Gerken, officer in charge of the Air Detachment, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 15. "They were still scared of Saddam. The people who first went there were very brave."

The governor of southern Iraq appointed an Iraqi neurologist to lead the effort to recover the victims' bodies. In May, he went to I MEF for help and they didn't hesitate. The Marines initially provided security for the site, as well as shade and water to the families digging for their loved ones. Some 3,860 sets of remains were recovered, of which 3,000 were identified. Eight hundred-sixty sets of remains were unclaimed. When the Iraqis were finished, the doctor came and asked for help reburial the victims. The Marines called the Seabees.

"The locals were crying and wailing. One woman passed out. It was awful," said Gerken. "I drew a parallel to World War II GI's when they came across the concentration camps. First you think, 'How could this happen?' then you think, 'What can I do to help these people?'"

"What the locals wanted was to recover their loved ones and bury their remains," said Garcia. "It was the right thing to do."

"At first they asked us to cover the holes left by the initial digging, so we brought in backhoes. That process alone uncovered more bodies," said Garcia. "We found baby shoes, skulls that had been cut with chainsaws, many had been buried alive. Entire families were executed. We heard from the locals that after a point, it was just people being rounded up and executed at a rate of 900 a day."

The Seabees dug burial plots under exact specifications according to Islamic tradition. The Iraqis buried their dead and held a private Muslim ceremony. Clear plastic bags were placed on top of the graves of 860 unclaimed bodies with items that could help identify them. The work at the Al Hillah burial site was completed May 28.

"They asked for help and we provided an engineering solution," said Gerken. "It is now a respectful place for burial."

## News Briefs

### Materials for college

Security's First Class Mess is starting a library of course/reference material for college students. These books will be lent to anyone taking college course and then returned at the end of the course. A listing of available material will be published after the library has been established. If you have old course/reference material or books and would like to donate them, contact MA1 Johnson at 624-2251.

### Scholarship time

The Scholarships for Military Children program for 2004 kicks off Nov. 4, when the information and application appear on a new website dedicated to the program. Go to [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org) for further information. The site may also be accessed via [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) and clicking on What's New.

### VP-45 congrats

Congratulations to Lt. Brooke Churgai for achieving another milestone in his career. Churgai successfully completed the VP-45 TACCO syllabus on Thursday, August 28th. As a qualified tactical coordinator, he now assumes a more critical role within the VP-45 war-fighting team.

### 2003 Navy Ball

**Menu:** Roll of Smoked Ham and Mozzarella Flavored with Green Pepper, Lasagne Macaroni in a Cheese and Leek Sauce, Chine of Pork with Almonds, Mashed Potatoes with Wild Fennel, Carrots sautéed in Butter, Coffee, Mineral Water and Red Wine "Regaleali"

Appropriate Formal civilian clothes are authorized for the dancing portion of the evening. The Ceremony and dinner portion will still be in Dinner Dress Blues, expected completion time will be about 9:40 p.m. Civilian attire is black tie, dinner dress.

The Navy Ball is Sat. at the Sheraton Hotel in Catania. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m. Dinner is at 7 p.m. Inform your Navy Ball Representative or AK1 Parker if a table reservation is requested.

For more information check out the Navy Ball Web site on Infosig under services.



By Alberto Lunetta  
*Signature Staff*

# Italian News

Sicilian culture and lifestyle

## Antique fair in Giardini Naxos

A prestigious antique fair featuring the finest furnishings, bric-a-brac, arts and crafts, ceramics, deco objects and more, will be held from Oct. 17 through 19 at the Palanaxos located in via Apollo Archegeta in the Recanati district. As you enter the city, you'll find signs to the Expo Center. Opening hours: 3 to 9 p.m. (Oct. 17), 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Oct. 18 and 19). For more information call 0942-50050.

## Catania Opera Theatre begins concert season

On Oct. 17, the *Teatro Massimo Bellini* will reopen its gates and return to a full season of performances.

Throughout the symphonic season there will be prestigious guest artists and soloists of international, national acclaim.

The following concerts will be performed through May 2004.



The magnificent Bellini Opera Theatre in Catania presents another exciting concert season running from Oct. 17 through May 25 and featuring world-class players. Opened in 1890, this amazing theatre is named after the famous opera composer Vincenzo Bellini (1801-1835).

Oct. 17, 2003 - 9 p.m. and Oct. 19, 2003 - 5:30 p.m. - Bruno Bartoletti (conductor), Daria Masiero (soprano) Jorg Schneider (tenor), Andrea Cortese (baritone) Tiziana Carlini (Choir Director). Music by Guido Turchi and Carl Orff.

Oct. 24, 2003 - 9 p.m. and Oct. 25, 2003 - 5:30 p.m. - Alain Lombard (conductor), James Ehnes (violin) Music by Sergey Prokofiev and Hector Berlioz.

Oct. 31, 2003 - 9 p.m. and Nov. 2, 2003 - 5:30 p.m. - Viatoslav Sutej (conductor), Bruno Boano (viola), Vadim Pavlov (cello). Music by Sergey Prokofiev and Hector Berlioz.

Nov. 7, 2003 - 9 p.m. and Nov. 8, 2003 - 5:30 p.m. - Ensemble Amarcord. Music by Robert Schumann, Orlando di Lasso, Thomas Morley, Francis Poulenc, and Franz Schubert.

Nov. 28, 2003 - 9 p.m. and Nov. 30, 2003 - 5:30 p.m. - Will Humburg (conductor), Julia Gertseva (mezzo-soprano) Luca Ballerini (piano), Tiziana Carlini (Choir Director). Music by Sergey Prokofiev.

Dec. 5, 2003 - 9 p.m. and Dec. 6, 2003 - 5:30 p.m. - Ensemble Gardel. Music by Carlos Gardel.

Dec. 15, 2003 - 9 p.m. - Budapest Treble Voice Choir. Music by Jan Campanus, Jacobus Gallus, Hans Leo Hassler, Michael Praetorius, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, Johann Sebastian Bach, Joseph Gabriel Rheinberger, Gabriel Fauré, Franz Listz, Giuseppe Verdi, Miklos Kocsar, Zoltan Kodaly and Kristóf Csengery.

Jan. 12, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Giorgia Tomassi (piano), Salvatore Accardo (violin). Music by César Franck and Ludwig Van Beethoven.

Jan. 23, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Stefano Ranzani (conductor). Music by Richard Wagner, Gino Marinuzzi and Bartholdy Musorgskij.

Jan. 29, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Amarcorde Quartet and Sandro De Palma (piano). Music by Bedrich Smetana and César Franck.

Feb. 8, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Bellini Opera Theatre Cello Ensemble and Vadim Pavlov (conductor). Music by Heitor Villa-Lobos, Enrique Granados, Fernando Obradors, Joaquin Turina, Niels Wilhelm Gade, Manuel de Falla, Edu Lobo and Gianfrancesco Guarnieri.

Feb. 16, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Natalia Gutman (cello) and Eliso Virsaladze (piano). Music by Ludwig Van Beethoven, Franz Schubert and Johannes Brahms.

Feb. 23, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Grigory Sokolov (piano). Music by Ludwig Van Beethoven.

Feb. 29, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Seis Tango Ensemble and Milva (vocalist). Music by Astor Piazzolla.

March 8, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Federico Mondelci (saxophone) Nelson

Goerner (piano). Music by Ervin Schulhoff, Phil Woods, Graham Fitkin, Takashi Yoshimatsu, Roberto Molinelli and Astor Piazzolla.

March 15, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Ciaikovskij Trio. Music by Johannes Brahms and Dmitri Shostakovic.

March 25 and March 31, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Hubert Soudant (conductor). Music by Maurice Ravel, Goffredo Petrassi, Luciano Berio and Igor Stravinskij.

Apr. 16, 2004 - 9 p.m. and Apr. 18, 2004 - 5:30 p.m. - Moscow Chamber Choir and

Vladimir Minin (conductor). Music by Sergey Rachmaninov, Georgy Sviridov, Valery Gavrilin Pavel Chesnokov.

Apr. 26, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Jean-Francois Thiollier (piano). Music by Franz Schubert, Carl Czerny, Franz Liszt, Carl Tausig, Erik Satie, Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel.

May 3, 2004 - 9 p.m. and May 5, 2004 - 9 p.m. - Canino-Ballista Piano Duo. Music by Franz Schubert, Johannes Brahms, Sylvano Bussotti and Darius Milhaud.

May 14, 2004 - 9 p.m. and May 16, 2004 - 5:30 p.m. - Zoltan Pesko (conductor) and Sergej Nakariakov (trumpet). Music by Goffredo Petrassi, Franz Schubert, Johannes Brahms, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Sylvano Bussotti and Darius Milhaud.

May 23, 2004 - 5:30 p.m. and May 25 - 9 p.m. - Stefano Ranzani (conductor), Brigitte Jager (soprano), Julia Oesh (mezzo-soprano), Vicente Ombuena (tenor) Martin Tronej (bass) and Tiziana Carlini (Choir Director). Music by Ludwig Van Beethoven.

For more information and tickets call 095-7150921 or check this website: [www.teatromassimobellini.it/](http://www.teatromassimobellini.it/).

## Arts and Crafts fair in Motta and Caltagirone

A *Truvatura*, is a monthly antique fair offering precious furnishings, bric-a-brac, arts and crafts, ceramics, deco objects and more. It will be set up in Caltagirone on Oct. 19 in piazza Municipio, the town's main square. Stalls will open continuously from 9 a.m. through 9 p.m.

From Oct. 17 through 19, local finest artisans will be in viale Carmine Caruso selling their creative works during the 4th edition of the Motta's *Mostra Mercato*. A variety of food and drinks will also be available throughout the fairgrounds from cheese, honey, olive oil, Sicilian specialties, and wine to sweets. The fair kicks off on Oct. 17 at 5 p.m. On Oct. 18 and 19, booths will be open from 9 a.m. through late evening.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>COMMUNITY CALENDAR</b>					17 <b>October</b>	18 <b>Base to Base Geep Run</b> Captain Cups event registration 7:30 to 8 a.m. NAS II fitness Center Call 624-4483
19 <b>Lipari Express</b> ITT Call 624-4396	20 <b>PTO Meeting</b> 2:30 p.m. SDS Rm. B-25 Call 624-12225.	21 <b>Tournament Tuesday</b> Jenga. 11:30 a.m. Take 5.	22 <b>Italian Dine-Out</b> Liberty. Call 624-5187.	23 <b>Retirement Planning</b> FFSC 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. NAS II Retention Ctr.	24 <b>Panini Run</b> Liberty. Call 624-5187.	25 <b>Horseback Riding</b> Liberty. Call 624-5187.
26 <b>Agrigento Valley of the Temples and S. Leone Beach</b> ITT Call 624-4396	27 <b>Game Night - Spades</b> NAS I Barracks #170 7 p.m. Liberty	28 <b>Train the Trainer</b> FFSC 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Base Theater	29 <b>Tops in Blue Air Force Variety Show</b> Nex parking lot Call x5271 for info.	30 <b>Topolino 2 "Kids Indoc"</b> FFSC 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Comm. Bldg. ICR Class	31 <b>Autumn Fest</b> Oct. 31 through Nov. 1. Call x5271 for more information.	1 <b>Nov</b> <b>Old Fashioned Auction</b> At Autumn Fest. Call x5606/x5187 to sign up. Auctioneer needed.
2 <b>Troina &amp; Agriturismo Farm</b> ITT Call 624-4396	3 <b>Command Financial Specialist Class</b> FFSC Call 624-2363/4291	4	5	6	7 <b>Picture Day</b> Preschool Sure Start Kindergarten Call 624-4396	8 <b>Castle Tour</b> ITT Call 624-4396
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 <b>5K Off-road Turkey Trot</b> Capt. Cup event. Call 624-2710





# Word Find

Saying Sorry

G V K M M D W E U N B W G A I H N Q M A S G M H B  
O G H O P I Y C A R U C C A N I Q I B L N D I C M  
O L P V U G S N M L L R R E I O S E I I K N S T O  
F Y S H I Y K C Z E E X L S M T R P D M C O P O B  
T H B P E S L U O P T G W A A R U N I U I I L B O  
L B L U D E R O N N D L K A P A S T D R S A Q V  
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H H I Y F L O X O P P R K U A S D X P R M R H O B  
F A U L T I B L B B R A I U T I N C O R R E C T O  
F L A W V Z D B O E T O S R D X V F Z K S W H Z R  
F C H U X T T K O E Q G A X Z S V A N Q R U H F L  
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U C R P W I T C R Z V A S N J D E X P H K H C U

ABERRANT	BUNGLE	FREUDIANS	MISPRINT	SLIPOFTHETONGUE
AWRY	DEFECT	GAFFE	MISS	SLIPUP
BLOOPER	DUD	GOOF	MISSPELL	SPOONERISM
BLUNDER	DUMBTRICK	INACCURACY	MISTAKE	STRAY
BOBBLE	ERR	INCORRECT	MISUNDERSTANDING	STUMBLE
BOMB	ERROR	LAPSE	MUFF	TRIP
BONER	FALSESTEP	MALAPROPISM	OFFTARGET	TYPO
BOOBOO	FAULT	MISCONCEPTION	OMISSION	UHOH
BOOT	FAUXPAS	MISCUE	OOPS	WAYOFF
BOTCH	FLAW	MISHAP	OVERSIGHT	WRONG
	FLOP	MISPLAY		

## TRIVIA

- 1) How long can Architeuthis (a giant squid) grow to be?
- 2) In 1597, William Shakespeare purchased a house in his Hometown of Stratford-upon-Avon. What was the name of that house?
- 3) The Gospels in the bible often use the word "Gehenna," which is translated into English as hell. Gehenna was an actual place in existence in the time of Christ what was it?
- 4) What is another name for a satellite antenna(shipboard) OE 82's?
- 5) What famous brothers expressed interest in joining the rock band "Kiss" in the early '80s?

(Answers on page 10)

## Movie Connection

AMT's Theater Schedule

Friday, Oct. 17



5:30 p.m.  
Out of Time (PG-13)\*\*



8 p.m.  
Open Range (R)\*\*

Saturday, Oct. 18



1 p.m.  
Uptown Girls (PG-13)



3:30 p.m.  
American Wedding (R)



6 p.m.  
S.W.A.T. (PG-13)

Sunday, Oct. 19



1 p.m.  
Freaky Friday (PG)



3:30 p.m.  
The Rundown (PG-13)



6 p.m.  
Open Range (R)

Monday, Oct. 20



5:30 p.m.  
American Wedding (R)\*



8 p.m.  
The Rundown (PG-13)

Theater Closed Tuesdays

Wednesday, Oct. 22



5:30 p.m.  
Matchstick Men (PG-13)



8 p.m.  
Open Range (R)

Thursday, Oct. 23

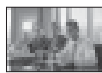


5:30 p.m.  
Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over (PG)



8 p.m.  
S.W.A.T. (PG-13)

Friday, Oct. 24



5:30 p.m.  
Intolerable Cruelty (PG-13)\*\*



8 p.m.  
The Order (R)\*\*

## Shout

DoDDs students talk about what's happening in the community

## New SDS teacher comes to Sig to make a difference

By Rachel Morken  
Staff Writer



Evelyn Chisari

Washington D.C. and El Paso, Texas. She has also taught health, physical education, ESL (English Second Language), and Spanish in Texas and California.

While she was a school counselor on the south side of El Paso she organized a group of students, first grade through high school, called "The Future of the Barrio". They were involved in many celebrations uniting the community. The largest festival she organized with the children was the lighting of Los Luminarios. Luminarios are a paper bag one-third filled with sand and a small votive candle, it is a Mexican tradition that symbolizes the lighting of the way for the wise men on their journey to visit the Christ child. She had the younger children make the luminarios and line the streets of the barrio. Simultaneously, at dusk, the high school students lit the nearly 2,500 luminarios. That was just the beginning of the community wide festival.

Chisari is fully involved in the community no matter where she lives. In the short 2 months she has been here, she has already immersed herself completely into the Sicilian culture. She lives in San Pietro Clarenza with her 19 year old daughter. Good luck finding their home; it is camouflaged with clothes hanging out on the line like many Sicilian homes. They also partake in as many ITT trips as they can. During one of their numerous travels through Sicily they were able to actually participate in the lighting of the steps in Caltagirone.

Although Chisari enjoys travel here, she came to Sigonella to help others. "After September 11<sup>th</sup>, and the beginning of the war I have felt a great sense of Patriotism and felt an obligation to serve," said Chisari. That and being half Sicilian lead her to apply at Stephen Decatur. "I love the diversity at the school, and the principal is a great leader making it a positive place to work."

Chisari spends most of her day visiting with students, whether it's while they are coming into school, during lunch, or in her office. Chisari commented, "My favorite part of the job is getting to know the kids and their families."

## PTSA discount on books

Do you spend more than \$100 a year on book purchases? The Stephen Decatur Secondary School has a DEAL for you! You don't have to have children to take advantage of this offer. Anyone can join the Stephen Decatur Secondary School PTSA (Parent, Teacher, Student Association) to show their support of the education process and their community. A benefit of membership is a 5 percent discount on all books purchased through the National PTA portal at <http://www.BarnesAndNoble.com>. To join the SDSS PTSA, pick up an application at the school, or mail \$5 with your name, address, email address and phone number to: SDSS PTSA, PSC 824 Box 2630, FPO AE 09623. Happy reading!

**This week on...**

Mon, Oct 20 - C.S.I. Miami  
AFN Atlantic 9:00 PM

Tue, Oct 21 - Movie: Mission Impossible 2  
AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM

Wed, Oct 22 - Boston Public  
AFN Atlantic 9:00 PM

Thu, Oct 23 - The Bachelor  
AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM

Fri, Oct 17 - Survivor: Pearl Islands  
AFN Atlantic 8:00 PM

**TUNE YOUR RADIO TO 106.0 ZFM 3 - 6 PM FOR THE ROCK SHOW**

**FOR LATEST NEWS HAPPENING IN THE COMMUNITY GO TO AFN SIGONELLA'S WEBSITE AT [afneurope.net/sigonella/](http://afneurope.net/sigonella/)**

Fri. Oct. 17

Get an early start on Christmas shopping with the ITT Catania shopping trip. The bus leaves NAS II at 8 a.m. and NAS I at 8:30 a.m.

Pre-teens, head to 205 for Hot Fudge Day. Make a hot fudge sundae mess with your friends from 3:30 to 4 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 18

Saddle up and join the AU posse on a Mt. Etna Horse Trek. Explore the mountain. Experienced riding instructors will guide a three-hour horse trek up the volcano. Discover beautiful trails and incredible views. Wear warm clothes and bring foul weather gear. You will leave NAS I at 8 a.m. and returns at 4 p.m.

Sun. Oct. 19

All aboard for the Lipari Express! Enjoy Lipari, one of the seven Aeolian Islands. Explore the island on a bus tour, then enjoy a light lunch at a local agritouristic farm. Later you can visit the archeological museum and see the castle with a wonderful view of the sea and the old town.

Mon. Oct. 20

Back by popular demand - it's BINGO! The Bingo Hall is on the second deck of the Crater Pub. Cards go on sale at 5:30 p.m. and Early Bird Bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. Two jackpots are up for grabs.

Tues. Oct. 21

Football fans unite Tuesday Night Football at Jox. Ask the night manager or the DJ about the "Guess the Score" contest. Correctly guess next week's score and you could win \$25.

Wed. Oct. 22

Liberty is having Italian Dine-Out. Get off base and let Liberty pay for up to 10 euros of your meal. Bring extra euro if you plan to eat more. Sign up and pay Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Thurs. Oct. 23

Take advantage of great gold prices with the Lentini Market trip sponsored by ITT. The bus leaves NAS II at 8 a.m. and NAS I at 9:00 a.m. Return to base at 2 p.m. Bring a friend and save on the cost of the trip.

\*\* Future Re-release \*\* Sneak Preview \* Last Showing

(All times and movies are subject to change. For more information on the schedule, call the movie hotline at x4248)

## SPORTS

## Jaguars football edge out Brussels for homecoming victory

By JO3 Steve Weaver  
Staff Writer

The Stephen Decatur High School Football team pulled out a homecoming-game win last Friday 32-30 in remarkable fashion against the Brussels American School Brigands.

Brussels came down to Naval Air Station Sigonella on a high due to being 4-0 and winners of the division last year at 6-0.

The Jaguars started off the game by kicking off, and looked as though they would recover that kickoff after Brigands Returner Lonnie Ruffin fumbled, but the call was reversed. Brussels took their first drive to the 25 yard line of Sigonella after a pretty pass. Halfback Brian Isbell then ran the ball in chunks through the Jags defense, finally landing one in the endzone. He then ran in the two-point conversion. Brussels were up early, 8-0.

The Jaguars answered quickly. Runs by running back Dustin Sampson, quarterback Keenan Jones, and Fullback/Lineman Jade Garth put the ball on the 4 yard line of Brussels. Jones then took the ball in for the touchdown. Big Jade Garth's two-point try failed. Jags were down by two at 8-6.

Brussels would not be outdone in the next series. After a few penalties by each team, Brussels was able to get off a pass downfield. Quarterback Kevin Nicholson put up a beauty to Wide Receiver Devell Landfair for 36 yards and the touchdown. Isbell added the two-pointer putting the score at 16-6 Brussels.

Jones would try out his own passing skills on the Jaguars next drive. After a late hit call on Brussels' Isbell, Jones found a wide-open Paul Nicholson, who bobbled and dropped the pass. Nicholson would catch the ball later in the series for a first down. The quarter ended, but the Jags scoring drive didn't. After switching ends of the field, Jones ran the ball in from 27 yards out for the touch. Sampson ran in the two-point conversion to keep the score tight at 14-16 Brussels, with 11:20 to play in the half.

The defense would give Sig back the ball on Brussels' next series. Jones caused Isbell to fumble on a run, while cornerback Randy Waggoner picked up the ball in Brussels territory. Brussels's defense would answer right back by sacking Jones and forcing a punt.

The Jags then forced the Brigands to punt, but the Isbell would get the ball right back with an interception of a Jones pass in Sig territory. Isbell would then take the ball in for another score and a two-point conversion, upping the Brussels' lead to 24-14 with 6:02 left in the half.

After the Jags defense survived an onside kick recovery by Brussels, big Jade Garth ran the ball in from 27 yards out for a score. Sampson two-point try failed and left the score at 20-24 at the end of the half.



Brussels' running back is met by two Jaguar's defenders during homecoming-game action on Oct. 10.

Sigonella got the ball beginning the second half. After runs by Garth and Jones, which brought the ball to the Brussels' seven, a fumble on the center/quarterback exchange gave Brussels the ball. Brussels was only pushed back by the Jags defense and had to punt in the endzone.

The Jags got the ball in good field position. On a fourth down call to go for it, Sig would benefit. Jones just got a pass away to Nicholson for the first down into Brussels territory. Then Jones would run the ball in for a touchdown. The two-point try failed, but the Jaguars were up for the first time in the game with 5:31 left in the third, 26-24.

After Brussels was unsuccessful on the next series, lineman turned fullback Jade Garth showed his speed and rumbled 68 yards for a touchdown run. Jaguars go up 32-24.

Brussels would not die without a last gasp. The Brigands Nicholson would answer right back with a tight pass to Landfair for the touchdown. The two-point try failed. The Jaguars would have to hold off Brussels with a close lead of 32-30.

The SDS defense pumped it up a notch in the fourth quarter. Great plays by linebacker Kelby Lamb, defensive end Nick Kelly, Waggoner, Josh Malong, Danny Vasquez and Jeff Kendall kept the Brigands at bay. A couple big stops of Brussels' drives kept the Brigands from

scoring. Brussels would have one last chance to score on a drive that saw them come up one yard short of a crucial first down. Brussels' Nicholson would try to convert on fourth down, but Waggoner tipped the pass and forced the turnover on downs.

With 16 seconds left in the game, Jones took a knee and the field erupted with cheers of joy as the Jaguars took the win. This was a big win for the Jags.

"That was the number one team in our division," said Garth. "They were 4 and 0, they're now 4-1. We worked for this win all year. We've been studying the film, working hard in practice everyday, and staying after practice everyday just to improve our game and just come out here and do what we did tonight. This is a big win."

"It determined who was going to be in first, or third place," said Jones "It's a three way tie for first place."

"It's enormous, it's gigantic," said Head Coach Fred Wilmot.

"We had a big letdown last week, we got mercy ruled by London central Brussels came down here ballyhood they were 6-0 last year in their division, they won their division. They beat us when we came up there pretty handily. This year they came down here with a 4-0 record, they thought they'd walk in and spoil our homecoming. The way the kids played, with heart and reached down and got momentum going...they couldn't be stopped."

A big guy who stepped up in a big way this game was Garth, who ran the ball for the first time. "This week we started running him as a fullback, just like Refrigerator Perry," said Wilmot. "He's the fastest lineman we have and I was impressed because he weighs 300 pounds. I was impressed for how fast he moves for 300 pounds. When he gets going, it's really hard to stop him. He ran over several of their guys and dragged them along with him before he actually went down."

The team played the game for Jose Peralta, who broke his fibula bone in the game versus London Central. Getting out of surgery (requiring a plate with six screws) the day prior to the game, Peralta was happy the team won. "I can't explain it," he said. "It's a big win, I can't put any words to it." The team gave Peralta the game ball after the game.

Peralta still helped out with what he could. "It was great, he was giving us tips and pointers on what to do and what not to do," said Garth. "He gave us good support and told us to keep our heads up because we can do this."

The Jaguars now head to the playoffs, and look to do good. "I think we'll do good as long as we play as hard as we can, just like we did today," said Jones. "We played the best team in the league and we came up victorious."

Photo by JO3 Steve Weaver

## Sig volleyball comes up short in NAVEUR Championships

By JO3 Steve Weaver  
Staff Writer

Naval Air Station Sigonella held the second annual invitational Naval Forces Europe (NAVEUR) Volleyball Championships from Oct. 10 through Oct. 12 in the NAS II Fitness Center.

Varsity teams from Rota, Spain, and Naples, Italy joined the Sigonella varsity team for some heated volleyball action. The All-NAVEUR Team also duked it out against competitors from the Italian Air Force 41<sup>st</sup> Stormo, a DoDDs team, and a semi-pro team from Catania, Sicily, called "Volley Battisti."

The Sigonella team bested the Rota Squad on Oct. 10, 26-24 and 25-18. Sigonella then fell on Oct. 11 to the team from Naples in two straight games, 19-25 and 14-25. Sigonella then took it to the squad from Rota winning in three games 20-25, 27-25 and 15-6.

Rota and Sigonella then squared off in a semi-final match on Oct. 12. Rota won the first game 25-16, but couldn't hold off Sigonella as they spiked their way back in the next to games, 25-19 and 15-12. This set up the championship match pitting the undefeated Naples squad versus the Sigonella team.

Naples took the early lead 3-0, but Sig came back to tie it at three all. Naples became a bit frustrated as Sigonella blocked their way to a 10-8 lead midway through the game. Naples would not be outdone though. They caught Sigonella at 14 all and then went on to take the lead and the game as they never looked back. Naples won the first game 25-18.

The next game saw both teams keep it close throughout the match. After Naples took the early lead 5-1, Sigonella caught up at seven all. The score went back and forth until the score was tied at 22. Big blocks by Sig's David Burns, Sean Lang and Erico Latham put Sig up 24-22. Naples would eventually catch up at 24 all, but Burns would spike the ball to give Sig the next point and a close victory for Sigonella.

It was all for naught as the Naples team powered their way to commanding third game win, 15-4, giving them the NAVEUR Championship.

Sigonella won the tournament last year. "It was a totally different group of guys, they all PCSed out," said Latham. "We really had to come in here and learn a system and get to know each other and just put it together. [We spent]

three to five days a week trying to get this thing down."

"We really wanted to come here and showcase our team," said Latham. "So we knew in order to do that we'd have to learn a lot, and then train a lot, and then be ready to execute in this tournament."

Naples was the team to beat in the tournament. "We've have been playing together for about two years," said Nathalie Zodan of NSA Naples. Zodan and one of her teammates have played for the All-Navy team in the past.

Latham admitted that beating Naples was a priority for the team. "If we want to be the best we have to beat Naples," said Latham.

Latham is trying to get Navy teams invited to other meets across



A Naples outside hitter spikes the ball towards the outstretched arms of two Sigonella players. Naples took first in the NAVEUR Volleyball Championships.

Europe. "We're trying to schedule the next tournament because for some reason, nobody else is hosting tournaments," he said. "We're trying to go to some Army tournaments up in Rammstein and Air Force tournaments out in Aviano. Army and Airforce seem to throw tournaments, but for some reason

their not inviting us. I'm going to try to knock down that wall and let them know that Navy volleyball is alive and well."

Zodan agrees. "That would be great," she said. "It would be a lot of fun. Teams from Europe would be a lot easier because there's space a flights that teams can catch."

Photo by JO3 Steve Weaver

## The Lane

### 2-day golf tourney

Get a buddy and see if you can win this best of two days golf tourney at Il Picciolo Golf club Nov. 1-2. Saturday will be a 2-person scramble and Sunday is a 2-person best ball. Overnight accommodations available. \$20 entry fee plus greens fees. For more information call 624-2710.

### 3-on-3 Hoops Tournament

Register by Nov. 5, for this double elimination tourney. There will be a maximum of four players per team with both men's and women's divisions. All games will be played on Saturday Nov. 8 at the NAS II gym starting at 10 a.m. Entry fee is \$5 per player and everyone gets a T-shirt. Awards for the top three teams. Call 624-2710 for more information.

### Sigonella Circuit Training Club

Become a member of Sig's newest weight training club. Get in shape the right way. Club runs until Nov. 21 so you still have time to get started. Participate at either of the Sigonella fitness centers. Call 624-2710 for more information.

## Swordfish reel in victory in weekend competition

By JO3 Steve Weaver  
Staff Writer

The Naval Air Station Sigonella Swordfish Swim Team swam their way to a victory in a four-way meet held last Sunday at the NAS II pool.

Sigonella commanded 451 total points, coming in just above a tough Naples team who scored 431 total points. Smaller teams from Vincenzo, who scored 193 total points, and Aviano, who scored 76, couldn't make up the difference in the amount of team members.

"Size matters," said Rich McKeown, aquatics supervisor. "Naples has 47 kids, we have about 38. The other teams are in the neighborhood of 20 per team. The more kids you have, the better chance you have at getting more points. We were actually losing for the first part of the meet. We're pretty tough for a small team."

This is only the second year of existence for the Swordfish. "The first year they don't expect you to have a home meet," said McKeown. "The second year you're supposed to have your act together well enough to have home meets. We run one of the better meets around, and it's because of the parents. The swim team parent organization is outstanding. Everything has run smoothly."

The team is also running very smoothly. "They had such a good year last year that if we did just as good as last year, it'd be great," said McKeown. "Somehow they're doing even better."

A lot of the same kids are back for the second year of Swordfish swimming. "Unfortunately we've PCSed a few of them," he said. "They're doing really well. At this stage of the season, we have far more qualifiers than this same stage last

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### Claims from page 3

due to flood, hurricane, and other exceptional circumstances, except vandalism that which covered under extremely rare circumstances.

Private vehicles are not covered by the Navy simply because you are stationed overseas. However, you may file claims for vehicle loss of damage that occurred while your vehicle was being shipped under orders, while located at your authorized quarters, or on board a military installation. If you car is stolen from your authorized quarters (either in government housing or on the Italian economy), and NLSO determines that the theft is not due in any part to your own negligence, you may file a PCA claim with the Claims office that will investigate, consider all the surrounding circumstances, and decide each case on its own merits.

If your car is stolen somewhere other than your authorized quarters (outside a restaurant, downtown, friend's house, etc.), or because you were negligent in any way (doors unlocked, windows open, etc.), you are not eligible for payment under the PCA.

If NLSO determines that your loss is payable, you will receive the average of three U.S. blue-book values for your car up to the maximum payment. If your vehicle was a European car you will be paid according to the Italian version of the blue-book. The maximum payment for stolen vehicle is \$3,000.00. NLSO does not pay for rental car fees, insurance fees, road taxes, or any other fees that stem from your loss.

In case of theft from your car, you may file a claim if the theft occurred at your authorized quarters on a military installation and it was not due to your own negligence. Evidence of forced entry into the vehicle is required before a claim is payable. NLSO Claims will only pay for items that would normally be left in a car.

For questions on PCA claims call DSN 624-6327 or 624-5258, or commercial 095-86-6327 or 095-86-5258. If you need to file a claim, setting up an appointment is required with the Claims Examiner at NLSO, NAS II, Building #564.

### Trivia Answers

- 1) 60-70 feet long
- 2) New Place
- 3) A garbage Dump
- 4) Trash Can
- 5) Van Halen

## Swordfish from page 9

year."

"We sort of measure the progress of the team by how many kids qualify for the championships (held in Munich, Germany)," said McKeown. "Last year at this time we had maybe five or six kids qualify, this year we have twice as many. Also, last year we didn't win a single meet...I think the best we did was third. This year we've gotten a first and a third. (Make that two firsts.)"

Naples Head Coach Kara Louk visited Sigonella for the second time at this meet. "[The competition is] pretty tight," said Louk. "We have four or five kids who have qualified for the championships in Munich, Germany. That puts my number up to about 16 children from my team who have qualified for championships."

Louk said being on the road is tough. "I been hard on my kids because they had to travel away for every meet that they've swam so far this season," she said. "We're waiting for a home meet so we can beat Sigonella. Our team is doing very well. We've won two away meets at this particular point, which is the first time Naples

has ever won an away meet." She added that Sigonella has a great team.

Jacob Ostrom, a Sigonellan who qualified for the 50 Freestyle, said he had a couple of things to work on in his second year of swimming. "Getting quicker off the blocks and doing better turns."

Zack Kazman also did well in the meet. "I got a first place ribbon in breast stroke," he said. "It was pretty good...somebody almost got me by a fraction of a second." He also has a good outlook for the season. "I think we're going to progress and get better and better."

The team has traveled, and will do more before the championships. "So far we've only gone to Vincenza," said McKeown. "We're going to go to Naples, the divisional championships in Vincenza, Aviano in about three weeks, and then Germany in February for the championships. That's the big championship meet that everybody's trying to get qualifying times for."



Photo by JCS Steve Weaver



(Above) A swimmer of the Sigonella Swordfish Swim Team dives in the NAS II pool on Oct. 12 during a four-way swim.

(Left) A host of swimmers from Signella, Naples, Vincenza and Aviano dive into the warm NAS II pool during the meet. Sigonella swam away with the win. Naples followed in second, Vincenza in third and Aviano in fourth.

Photo by JCS Steve Weaver

## Homecoming from page 1

as you think. Only serious inquiries may be made. "I'm not really why I had them make an application for why they want to be a cheerleader," said Pozniak-Robins. "And that's basically to build up the school spirit to keep up the motivation. They have to get two teacher recommendations for the tryout and they have to be interviewed by me. Hopefully when they've gone through this process they really believe in it. I add up the teacher interview, my interview, then the skills score and I choose from the numbers. I've raised the bar. It's not just for wearing the uniform and looking pretty."

The cheerleaders will have to try out again to be on the squad for the basketball season. In February, those who wish will take part in a cheerleading competition for Italy. "There will be more girls on the basketball squad," said Wrinkles. "I think they have a great advantage of actu-



(Above) The Drum Ensemble, sporting sunglasses and various percussion instruments, play during halftime at the homecoming football game.



(Left) Homecoming Court King and Queen walk past members of Stephen Decatur School's NJROTC as they cross swords during halftime festivities at the Jaguar's football game.

ally winning this year. We have a lot of girls who have dedication and they want to be doing this instead of just doing it for the cuteness."

The squad has progressed well this year according to Pozniak-Robins. "They started out with not being able to do very many different types of jumps, to being

and Wrinkles) said their jumps are the hardest things to do and also their most improved aspect. "Our voices have gotten louder," said Wrinkles. "We got to do some great stunts this year, last year we weren't able to do as many or such technical stunts."

If they desire, these cheerleaders could go on to

able to know the types of jumps there are and to do them well," she said. The cheerleaders (Kay Almonte, Sherelle Desears, Keco Drake, Amanda Hicks, China Jones, Chryssa Manzano-Hayes,

cheer elsewhere, such as at a university. "[They can get] scholarships to various universities, particularly in Florida and Texas," said Pozniak-Robins. "I've had some girls from my squad at Aviano who continued their career at a university."

Presently, the squad had a great time at the games this season. "We've had great crowds this year," said Wrinkles. "Last year we didn't have a lot to work with. This year the crowds have been awesome." The group was excited to take part in this year's homecoming, which drew what looked like a record crowd.

It's the things that you don't see that makes a cheerleading squad good. "It's really important about all the stuff that happens behind the scenes before we walk out onto the field," said Pozniak-Robins. "We do videotape and sit down just like a football team. The next week that we have practice we'll sit and look at the videotape and analyze it."

## Urban Moves visits Sig on overseas tour



Ten Urban Moves dancers out of Washington D.C. visited Naval Air Station Sigonella as the last stop of a tour that took the troupe through, Turkey, Jordan, Egypt, Portugal and Spain. During the show, which incorporated such styles as jazz, ballet, break dancing and other hip-hop forms, the dancers sang and danced through various segments. The show even included some crowd participation and an autograph session at the end. Urban moves was founded in January 2003 by Derek Brown, Cheryl Brown and Amber Gruen. Urban Moves has 30 dancers in the troupe and often give tryouts in the D.C. area. for more information about the group or show venues and times visit their website at [www.Urbanmoves.net](http://www.Urbanmoves.net).